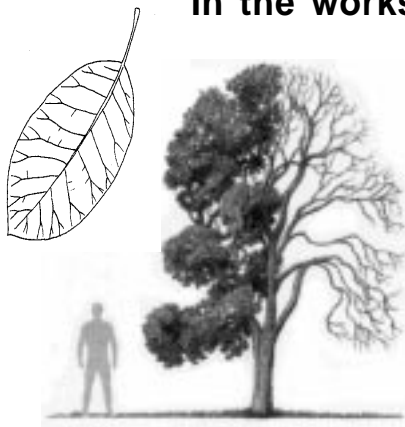


News Bulletin

In the works



American Smoke Tree

Cotinus obovatus

The Smoke Tree is highly desired because of its brilliant fall colors and conspicuous "smokey" effect as flowers fade in summer. The leaves are obovate, up to 6 inches (15cm) long, and 3 inches (7.5 cm) wide. The thin, untoothed leaves are bronze when young and become blue-green, smooth above, and hairy beneath. The bark is gray-brown, becoming scaly with age. Male and female flowers are yellow, in long conical clusters occurring at the shoot ends. The Smoke Tree's native habitat is rocky hills in central and southern North America, but has shown an affinity for dry, well-drained soils in Washington and Oregon. Its mature height of around 30 feet (9 m) makes it a possible choice under high utility wires or in smaller yards.

*-Courtesy of "Trees" by Allen J. Coombes, published
by Dorling Kindersley, Inc.*

the deciduous trees. Not to worry! What you are witnessing is a cyclical infestation of either the fall webworm or the western tent caterpillar. They defoliate the limb on which they infect, but rarely do any major damage to the tree, and are more of an eyesore than anything serious. They have so many natural predators that infestations are kept at bay through biological controls. If the cosmetics of the webs must be addressed, it is possible to prune out the infected limb and destroy it. According to P.P. Pirone there is also the chemical option of using the pesticide Sevin, common name: Carbaryl. Whatever your choice, BE SAFE! - Kevin

The 9th National Urban Forest Conference Coming to Seattle

August 31 - September 3, 1999

The 9th National Urban Forest Conference will be focusing on ecological impacts of urban growth. Some of the conference goals are:

- 1 Advance our collective understanding of the ecology in and around urban areas.
- 1 Take an in-depth look at the ecology, impacts of urban growth, and the actions of people and organizations in two or three geographic areas including Puget Sound.
- 1 Investigate the tools, technology, public policies, partnerships, and actions improving the relationship between urban growth and natural systems.

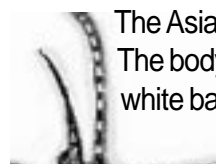
The Conference will be held at the Westin Hotel in downtown Seattle. American Forest is expecting close to 1000 people to attend. If you are in any way interested in urban forestry, you won't want to miss this event. For more information, visit American Forests' website www.amfor.org or call (202) 955-4588.

ArborMasters Coming to Spokane

ArborMaster Training is a four-day training program that provides hands-on experience of the very latest techniques in safe and productive tree work. The instructors are internationally reknown tree-climbers/arborists, Ken Palmer and Rip Tompkins. The training will take place September 11-12 and October 8-9. On October 10 there will be a separate "come one, come all" seminar discussing many of the techniques taught in the course. If you are interested, contact Rich Baker at (509) 466-6559 for information.

Asian Longhorn Beetle Found In Chicago Neighborhood

A tree-devouring Chinese beetle was found recently on Chicago's North Side and it has state and federal officials mapping out a strategy for eradicating the pest before it spreads into American forests. The deep boring nature of the insect has rendered conventional pesticide controls futile; only complete removal and destruction of infected trees has proved effective. The devastating technique requires deforestation of entire city blocks.



The Asian longhorn beetle is 1-1 1/2 inches in length, with 2-inch antennae. The body is coal-black with white spots and the antennae have black and white banding. The females chew out a spot to lay their eggs, resulting in a dark oval on the bark. The holes where the beetles leave the tree

*Let me desire and wish well the life
these trees may live when I no longer
rise in the mornings...*

-Wendell Berry

**TRIVIA: What state has the most Tree City
USA's? How many?**

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

On the Horizon

The purpose of the Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is to assist communities and nonprofit groups in building self-sustaining urban forestry and tree care programs with strong local support.

Editors: Kevin LeClair, Community Assistance Forester, and Tish Carr, Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator; DNR Urban and Community Forestry Program, P.O. Box 47037, Olympia,

Annual Conference and Trade Show September 27-30, 1999. According to President Jon Thompson, some of the highlights include:

- 1 Nina Bassuk speaking on the Cornell structural soil mix.
- 1 Sharon Lilly comparing European and American cabling and bracing techniques.
- 1 Jim Skiera and Mike Lawson speaking on software programs.
- 1 and much, much more.

This Conference is being held with cooperation from the Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance (METRIA) and the Center for Development of Landscape Plants (CDLP). It's coming up fast, so register now. For details, call SMA at (314) 862-1711.

Call For Workshops

The 9th National Urban Forest Conference Workshop Committee is seeking organizations and individuals to present half or full-day workshops on August 31, 1999. The workshops provide an excellent opportunity to share your in-depth knowledge of tools, technology, public policies, partnerships, and actions that can improve the relationship between urban growth and natural systems. The deadline for submissions is September 11, 1998. Applications can be obtained by contacting the Committee Chair, Rob Bell, at (425) 452-6855, or contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

Landscaping for Wildfire Prevention, Protecting Homes on the Wildland/Urban Interface. This 15-page booklet discusses basic fire behavior and strategies for protecting your home from danger. A form for calculating your home's fire hazard rating is included, as well as a list of "fire-resistant" trees and shrubs. Copies are available through the University of Idaho, Extension Forestry, cost is \$3.00. Call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE, for more information.

Problem Analysis on Community-Forest Relationships. USFS researchers identified topics that need addressing in the next five years. They include ways to characterize communities, links between communities and forests, response to change, and alternative urban forestry arrangements. For copies or information, contact the Seattle Forestry Sciences Lab at (206) 553-7817.

September

- 16-18 Best of the West Summit. The Presidio, Golden Gate Club, San Francisco, CA. For more information, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.
- 12,19,26 Tree Steward Training. 9:00am-4:00pm, Seattle, WA. For more information, contact Liz Ellis at (206) 684-5008.
- 29 Mycorrhizae: An Important Ingredient for Tree Health by Dr. Don Marx. 1:00-5:00pm, Eugene Hilton, Eugene, OR. \$55 registration fee. For information, contact PNW-ISA at (503) 585-4285.
- 30-2 Pacific Northwest Chapter of ISA, Annual Training Conference. Eugene, OR. For more information, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-TREE.

October